

Introduction To Class A Foam, The Properties Of Foam, Class A Foam Proportioners, Aspirating Nozzles, Compressed Air Foam Systems, and Tactical Applications With Class A Foam are six separate videos that have been completed.

Lot Acceptance, Quality Assurance and Field Quality Control of Fire Retardant Chemicals provides information needed for cost effective and efficient management of the fire retardant equipment program. (NFES 1245)

Spark Arrester Guides are published in two volumes. Each volume is updated every two years.

Volume 1: General Purpose and Locomotive (NFES 1363)

Volume 2: Multiposition Small Engine (NFES 2363)

Spark Arresters and the Prevention of Wildland Fires introduces through a video the operation, identification and inspection of spark arresters using the respective Spark Arrester Guide and field inspection techniques. (NFES 2237)

The **Water Handling Equipment Guide** provides information on basic equipment components that are commercially available or economically reproducible, interagency in scope or application, and currently in use. (NFES 1275)

The **Wildland Fire Engine Component Guide** assists wildland fire agencies in the selection of quality components for assembly into fire engines. (NFES 1871)

The **Wildland Fire Hose Guide** provides valuable procurement information with a potential for considerable savings, especially in the area of care and maintenance of wildland fire hose. (NFES 1308)

1999 FEWT MEMBERSHIP BY AGENCY

MEMBER	AGENCY
Alice Forbes, Chair	USDA Forest Service, National Headquarters
Kim Christensen	Bureau of Land Management

Larry Camp	General Services Administration
Ken Butler	Bureau of Indian Affairs
Brian Hutchins	State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources
J. P. Greene	State of Florida Division of Forestry
Paul Naman	Bureau of Land Management
Roger Spaulding	Fish and Wildlife Service

ADVISORS

Sig Palm	USDA Forest Service, San Dimas Technology and Development Center
Dick Mangan	USDA Forest Service, Missoula Technology and Development Center
Serge Poulin	Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Center
Paul Solarz	USDA Forest Service, Missoula Technology and Development Center

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR ASSIGNMENT

Kim Christensen (BLM)	National Fire Equipment System
Brian Hutchins (MI)	Engine Study
Gordon Foster (FS)	Waterhandling

NWCG LIAISON

Roger Erb	Fish and Wildlife Service
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FIRE EQUIPMENT WORKING TEAM



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BACKGROUND

The Fire Equipment Working Team (FEWT) is one of many support teams established by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) to analyze specific problem areas in fire management and recommend solutions. The NWCG was formed in January 1974, to expand operational cooperation and coordination of the United States Departments of Agriculture and the Interior and their various member agencies and the National Association of State Foresters.

PURPOSE

This team coordinates fire equipment and chemical needs, development, and implementation between Federal and State agencies. They function as a working team to define specific areas of equipment and chemical needs and priorities which have the greatest importance to interagency programs.

FEWT assignments include:

Executing fire equipment and chemical work assigned by NWCG.

Monitoring periodically disseminated information on wildland fire equipment development (or equipment adaptable to wildland fire needs) and technology activity in progress.

Establishing a process to identify existing problem areas and unattended current and future specific national equipment and chemical needs that:

- Establishes a priority for these needs.
- Prepares preliminary project proposals in connection with these needs.
- Recommends to NWCG implementation of specific projects.
- Reviews progress on projects previously recommended, assures that cost data is current, and reports progress to all interested parties.

- Recommends to NWCG opportunities for standardization, cost efficiencies, safety considerations, etc., as they are identified at national levels.
- Provides direction to subcommittees as established.

MEMBERSHIP

FEWT is comprised of representatives from the General Services Administration, USDI agencies including BLM, BIA, F&WS, and NPS, USDA Forest Service, and individual states. FEWT also maintains a liaison with the Canadian Forest Fire Equipment Working Group.

FEWT accomplishes its work through assignments to individual members, technical advisors, subcommittees and ad hoc groups such as: National Fire Equipment System Subcommittee, Water Handling Equipment Guide Subcommittee, Engine Study Subcommittee, and other subcommittees as needed and assigned.

NATIONAL FIRE EQUIPMENT SYSTEM SUBCOMMITTEE (NFES)

NFES is a standing subcommittee reporting directly to the Chair of FEWT. The purpose of NFES is to assist all agencies in the standardization of fire cache operations, items, kits, training, and automated inventory and management systems. Fire cache kit standardization and the NFES numbering system are two results of the NFES subcommittee; the Interagency Cache Business System (ICBS) is another.

FEWT ENGINE SUBCOMMITTEE

In 1986, FEWT initiated an extensive study of user needs for wildland fire engines. Surveys identified fleet size, problems with truck cab and chassis, and fire component needs. The subcommittee met with truck manufacturers and as a result cab and chassis specifications were developed based on user needs.

In 1998, this subcommittee completed a revised engine typing system which has been adopted by NWCG and incorporated into the 1998 edition of the Fireline Handbook, 410-1.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Fire Equipment Working Team is dynamic. It identifies specific improvement areas related to equipment or chemicals and recommends priorities and actions that offer the widest benefits to interagency programs. Also, it publishes surveys and guides that enable fire managers and firefighters to do their jobs more effectively.

FEWT has conducted national surveys of Federal and State fire agencies and managers to determine development priorities. Top priorities are identified and assigned usually in the form of joint initiatives for maximum interagency benefit. Some of the accomplishments include: an automated fire cache inventory and accountability system, the Foam vs Fire publication series, preparation of specifications for wildland fire chemicals and quality control, fireline explosives training standards, and development of scratch resistant goggles.

AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS

FEWT also carries out an ambitious publishing program of guides and other technical material. Representative examples of these documents are described below. Documents identified with an NFES number can be ordered from the National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 South Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354.

Fire Equipment Storage and Refurbishing Standards identifies storage and refurbishing standards for equipment and supplies used within the NFES national cache system, and for those who maintain and refurbish wildland fire equipment. (NFES 2249)

Foam vs Fire: Publication Series

Primer covers the basics of using Class A foams and discusses their adaptability to present application equipment. (NFES 2270)

Class A Foam For Wildland Fires explains how to achieve the most firefighting benefit from water by converting water to class A foam. (NFES 2246)

Aerial Applications explains class A foam characteristics and properties, personal safety and environmental concerns when using class A foam, aerial application proportioning systems, and tactical application for fixed- and rotor-wing operations. (NFES 1845)